

Remarks

Claims 17-30 currently are pending in the present application. Claims 28 and 29 are deemed allowable, claims 22 and 30 are objected to and claims 17-27 are rejected.

The Office has objected to claims 22 and 30 as being of improper dependent form. The amendments herein cancel claims 22 and 30, making this rejection moot. Applicants therefore request that this objection be withdrawn. New claims 31 and 32, dependent on claims 28 and 29, replace claim 30 and recite "a suspension of silicon dioxide or silica gel." Claim 17 also has been amended to recite this language. Applicants submit that these claims are supported by the specification generally and specifically by, *inter alia*, paragraphs 7, 8 and 18, and by original claims 13 and 14. Applicants therefore submit that these claims should be allowed.

The Office has objected to an informality in the specification at page 8, paragraph 23. Applicants have amended the specification to replace the term "[lacuna]" with the term "transferred." The missing term is obvious from the context of the sentence and was omitted due to a typographical error in the original German specification. The final phrase also was canceled as having no obvious reference in the sentence. Applicants submit that the informality now is corrected and that no new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Therefore, Applicants request that the Office withdraw this objection.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that the art rejections of record have been withdrawn.

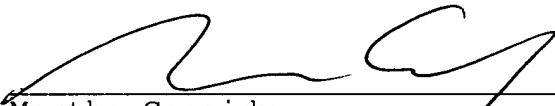
Claims 17-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not sufficiently supported by written description. The basis for this rejection

is the contention that the presence of SDS is critical for reducing endotoxin or LPS in plasmid DNA as shown in Figure 1 of the application and that SDS was the only detergent described that could form LPS/SDS with isopropanol for use in the claimed method. Applicants have amended the claims herein to recite SDS. Claim 18 is canceled as redundant in light of this amendment. Applicants submit that this rejection is overcome and request its withdrawal.

Applicants submit that the claims as amended are allowable and therefore request that this application now proceed to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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